

REMARKS

The Official Action mailed April 4, 2007, has been received and its contents carefully noted. This response is filed within three months of the mailing date of the Official Action and therefore is believed to be timely without extension of time. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that this response is being timely filed.

The Applicant notes with appreciation the consideration of the Information Disclosure Statements filed on August 11, 2004; April 28, 2005; and January 15, 2007.

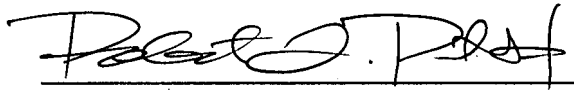
Claims 31, 32, 35-43, 46-53, 55, 56 and 59-70 were pending in the present application prior to the above amendment. The Applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of claims 62, 64, 68 and 70 (page 10, Paper No. 20070330).

The Official Action rejects claims 31, 32, 35-43, 46-53, 55, 56 and 59-61, 63, 65-67, 69 and 70 as obvious based on the combination of Figure 30 of the present specification, which the Official Action refers to as "Applicant's Prior Art" (APA) and U.S. Patent No. 5,668,379 to Ono, either alone or in combination with one or more of the following: U.S. Patent No. 5,821,159 to Ukita, U.S. Patent No. 6,215,077 to Utsumi and JP 08-234212 to Hioki.

In response and in accordance with the statement of allowed subject matter (Id.), independent claims 31 and 43 have been amended to include the allowable features of claims 64 and 70, respectively. Specifically, independent claims 31 and 43 have been amended to recite that a side surface of a metallic film and a side surface of a transparent conductive film are in contact with an insulating film. Therefore, independent claims 31 and 43, as amended, recite allowable subject matter, and the above-referenced rejections are believed to be moot. Accordingly, claims 31, 32, 35-43, 46-53, 55, 56, 59-63 and 65-69 are now pending in the present application, of which claim 1 and 43 are independent, and all of which are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert L. Pilaud", written over a horizontal line.

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